

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: KOTZ****Project Title:**

KOTZ - Radio Station Equipment

State Funding Requested: \$ 50,000
One-Time Need**House District: 40 - T****Brief Project Description:**

Funding will provide for the purchase of translators for the villages who currently do not have them.

Funding Plan:**Total Cost of Project: \$82,000**

	<u>Funding Secured</u>		<u>Other Pending Requests</u>		<u>Anticipated Future Need</u>	
	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>
State Funds					\$32,000	09
Total					\$32,000	

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

KOTZ is located in Kotzebue and is the only radio station serving the Northwest Arctic Borough population of some 7,500 residents living in 11 villages. Local residents contribute to the operations of the station through fundraisers. However, this is not enough to maintain all of the equipment and fund the operations to run the radio station. Funding will provide translators for the villages who currently do not have them. The villages are Deering, Kiana, Kivalina, Noatak, Noorvik and Selawik. Increased electrical noise in the villages from a variety of sources is making it difficult for the residents to obtain a useable signal. The translators would overcome this problem. Partial funding for this request was originally in the FY 08 supplemental and has been moved to the FY 09 capital budget as requested. This funds a portion of the project and the rest is funded through a FY 09 capital request.

In rural Alaska, one of the primary duties of the radio station is to provide programming that addresses the health, safety, and educational needs of the community. KOTZ is used by all of the local public safety and weather organizations to disperse information regarding life, health, and safety issues. Such information includes search and rescue operations, storm information, travel conditions, and disease or rabies outbreaks. The radio station is a vital tool to get essential information to the hub and outlying communities in the timeliest manner.

Project Timeline:

Most of the money would be expended in the summer of 2008.

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

KOTZ

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Contact Name: Suzy Erlich

Phone Number: 442-3434

Address: Box 78 Kotzebue, AK. 99752

Email:

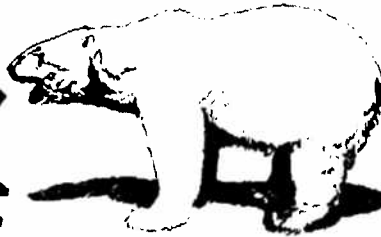
Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No

720 KHz

10,000 Watts

KOTZ

Public Radio for Northwest Alaska



February 14, 2007

Al Adams
8221 Summerset Drive
Anchorage, Alaska 99518

Dear Al:

It was so nice to see and hear from you at our last Assembly meeting. Per our discussion I am asking for your assistance in securing funding for KOTZ-AM. Specifically, we need your help to secure translators for the villages who currently do not have them. Those villages are: Deering; Kiana; Kivalina; Noatak; Noorvik, and Selawik. The introduction of computers, home electrical appliances, cars and more snow machines and four wheelers are creating a great amount of electrical interference in the villages. Residents in those villages noted above complain that they get too much static to listen to the radio. Some people actually go to their trucks and turn on their radio to listen to their favorite programming!

We also need a translator here at the KOTZ radio studio. Our annual electrical bill has now climbed to \$75,000! The majority of this cost is for the transmitter tower. The tower operates at 10 kilowatts and a transmitter here at the studios would operate at 30 watts.

We will continue to use the transmitter during our regular operating hours which is from 6:00 AM to 12:00 AM daily, with the exception of Saturdays when we sign on at 8:00 AM and sign off at midnight. These are the hours when announcers are present in the studio.

Where we would incur cost savings is the use of the translator from midnight (sign off) until sign on. During those hours we are on automation with no one present here in the studios.

KOTZEBUE BROADCASTING, INC. BOX 78, KOTZEBUE, ALASKA 99752

Funded in Part by the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission

Cont. P 2 – KOTZ request to the Al Adams
2/14/07

So here is what I am asking your help for:

1	Seven translators @ 5.000 ea	35,000.00
2	Ten Baric Encoders for translators @ 400 ea	4,000.00
3	Installation/Travel	11,000.00

50,000.00

Please feel free to call me here at the station or Pierre Lonewolf at 442-3114 if you have any questions.

Thank you so much for your kindness and support of KOTZ-AM.

Sincerely,



Suzy Erlich
General Manager

Cc: Pierre Lonewolf
Engineer